

Message Text

SECRET

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S/S-MR. BORG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 059842

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILL, TW, US, CH

SUBJECT: BOSTON GLOBE REPORT ON US MILITARY REDUCTIONS
ON TAIWAN

REF: TAIPEI 1593

YOU SHOULD NOT INITIATE DISCUSSION WITH THE GROC BUT IF
ASKED BY THE GROC ABOUT THE BOSTON GLOBE REPORT OF A
SECRET PLEDGE BY PRESIDENT FORD TO TENG HSIAO-PING
TO CUT US MILITARY FORCES ON TAIWAN FROM ABOUT 2200 TO
1100, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE:

(1) AS SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS PUBLICLY STATED, WE
EXPECT TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF REDUCING OUR TROOP
LEVELS ON TAIWAN THIS YEAR.

(2) OUR PLANS FOR SUCH WITHDRAWALS ARE STILL UNDER
REVIEW. AS IN THE PAST, WE WILL INFORM THE GROC OF
OUR INTENTIONS AS SOON AS DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE.

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(3) THE DISPOSITION OF US FORCES IN TAIWAN RESULTS FROM UNILATERAL US DECISIONS BASED ON OUR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS, POLITICAL INTERESTS AND SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS. THE REDUCTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN NEGOTIATED WITH THE PRC ALTHOUGH THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH OUR POLICY UNDER THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

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